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ORIGIN

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The plan for the schooling of shop stewards which is summarized below

1. Each group attending classes is to consist of not more than forty members of the works councils. The groups will have twenty-six days of instruction (156 hours in all), spread over a period of six months. They will attend classes one day each week from 0800 to 1100 and from 1300 to 1600. Since the time spent in classes is paid for by the firm, attendance can be made compulsory.
2. The twenty-six weeks are divided into three periods, the first two periods lasting eight weeks each, the third period lasting ten weeks. The proposed schedule of study follows:
 - a. First eight-week period
 - 1st hour: The duties of free trade unions in the economy as a whole and in industrial administration.
 - 2nd and 3rd hours: What the shop steward must know about the balancing of accounts.
 - 4th hour: The new labor laws, rate tables (Tarifwesen), and works council law.
 - 5th and 6th hours: Instruction in industrial economy.
 - b. Second eight-week period
 - 1st hour: The duties of free trade unions in the economy as a whole and in industrial administration.
 - 2nd hour: What the works council must know about balancing accounts.
 - 3rd hour: The new labor laws, rate tables, and works council law.
 - 4th hour: Introduction to political economy.

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5th and 6th hours: Cost accounting (what the works council should know about figuring costs).

c. Third period, ten weeks

1st hour: The history of the workers' and trade union movements.

2nd hour: Information on items produced and problems of raw materials.

3rd hour: The social duties of the works councils (social security, workers' protection, etc.)

4th hour: Structural changes in the economy of the Soviet Zone of Occupation and in Saxon economy. The foundations of planned economy.

5th hour: Political economy (Capitalism - Imperialism).

6th hour: The duties of the works council in figuring costs and fixing prices.

3. Smaller towns in Saxony will be able to make use of the same system by having classes in some central spot one or two days a week only. Subjects which cannot be covered by available lecturers may be left until the end of the course, when a qualified lecturer from the provincial headquarters of the FDGB can give a week-end course to all participants in the school. The problem of obtaining teachers will have to be solved by using not only the secretaries and employees of the FDGB, but also by persuading the higher officials (all of them members of the unions) of the political parties, local self government, industrial and trade bureaus, workers' tribunals, and insurance organizations to give one or two hours a day for this purpose. The Schools and Training Division of the provincial FDGB will attempt to issue a general outline of the various subjects to be covered, which the local groups may have reproduced for the use of their teachers and, if possible, for the use of their students.

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[redacted] the provincial FDGB Schools and Training Office concerning what plans are being made to carry out these instructions. [redacted] another group of 1000 student workers will begin preparatory courses on 1 October 1946. [redacted] recommendations of possible candidates for the courses.

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